We need your help!

The assessment division is gathering data on schedules and scheduling processes including examples of Smarter testing schedules from a spectrum of school sizes and situations. To share information about barriers and successes please contact: **Yvonne Field, 406-444-0748 yfield@mt.gov**. Data that is gathered will be used to provide scheduling guidance for schools across our state.

A **Technology Readiness Calculator** is available to help schools **estimate the number of days and associated network bandwidth** required to complete Smarter Balanced assessments. This tool allows districts and schools to enter the number of students, number of computers, and number of hours per day that computers are available for testing. The calculator is available through the Technology page of the Smarter Balanced website at http://www.smarterbalanced.org/smarter-balanced-assessments/technology/.

Testing Time Estimates:

In the table below are the estimated times it will take students to complete the Smarter Balanced Field Test based on the time it took students to complete the Smarter Balanced Pilot Test in the spring of 2013. The test duration estimates described in the table below are applicable to most students. However, Smarter Balanced assessments are not timed tests. Some students may need more time and some students may need less time to complete the assessment.

Content Area	Grades	Non-Performance Task items	Performance Task	Total	In-Class Activity	Total
English Language Arts/Literacy	3-5	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	6-8	1:30	2:00	3:30	:30	4:00
	11	2:00	2:00	4:00	:30	4:30
Mathematics	3-5	1:30	1:00	2:30	:30	3:00
	6-8	2:00	1:00	3:00	:30	3:30
	11	2:00	1:30	3:30	:30	4:00
Both	3-5	3:00	3:00	6:00	1:00	7:00
	6-8	3:30	3:00	6:30	1:00	7:30
	11	4:00	3:30	7:30	1:00	8:30

Glossary:	
Break	The number of items per session can be based on the student's need, and there is no limit on the number of breaks or the length of a break. However, for some portions of the test, breaks of more than 20 minutes will prevent the student from returning to items already attempted by the student.
Classroom Activity	Classroom activities are activities required before the performance task portion of the Field Test. They are designed as a prompt for discussion before the performance task and will take approximately 10-30 minutes. The classroom activities build student background knowledge.
Computer Administered (non-performance task)	Non-performance task items include selected-response, constructed-response, and technology-enhanced items.
Full Write	An expectation within the ELA performance task that requires the student to develop

	an informative /explanatory, narrative, or opinion/argumentative multi-paragraph piece of writing that has gone through the full writing process.
Pause	A student may pause any part of the test as needed. Depending on the section of the test the consequences of a student's pausing the test will differ. Pauses of more than 20 minutes in the non-performance task components of the test will prevent the student from returning to items already attempted. For a performance task, the student can pause for any amount of time and still return to any previously answered item within the PT current segment only.
Performance Task (PT)	A Performance Tasks (PT) is a required portion of the Field Test that requires students to answer a set of questions in response to an activity. Prior to the performance task, teachers will conduct a themed classroom activity for all students in the class.
Reset	In some instances, a test may be to be reset; however, in most situations the test may be stopped and continued without a reset.
Segment	Tests are broken up into segments within the Test Delivery System. When a student completes a segment of the test, he or she will receive a message that indicates that once he or she submits that individual segment and moves on, it is no longer possible to return to that segment.
Session	A session is any specific timeframe in which students are actively testing. Building administrators set the session lengths based on local scheduling structures.

Field Test Sequencing and Duration- ELA

	ELA Non-Performance Task Questions	ELA Classroom Activity	ELA Performance Task (PT) Part 1 and Part 2
Number and Duration of Sessions	**Recommendations:** • No fewer than 2 sessions (recommended) and not more than 6 sessions (rare/extreme) • Session durations range from 40-60 minutes	**Recommendations:** • Administered in 1 session • Approximate session duration: 15-30 minutes • Should occur 1 to 3 days prior to PT • Should NOT occur on the same day as the ELA performance task	**Recommendations:** • Administered in 2 sessions corresponding to Part 1 and Part 2 of the PT • Session duration range: 60 to 120 minutes
Breaks within Sessions	Breaks can be provided during the testing sessions using the software's pause feature. If the test is paused for more than 20 minutes, the student will not be able to go back to items on the previous screens.	NA	ELA items are presented in two parts. Students can take breaks within Parts 1 and 2; however, once a student moves to Part 2, he/she will not be able to review or revise items in Part 1 • **Recommendation:** Students complete Part 1 in one testing session and Part 2 the next school day.
Total Duration	Once a student has started the non-PT, it will be available for 45 days. **Recommendation:** Student completes this portion within 5 days of starting.	NA	Once started, PT will be available for **10 days**. • **Recommendation:** Student completes each part of the PT within one day.

Additional Required Resources	Headphones are required for ALL students for the listening portion of the ELA assessment	NA	Headphones are required for some performance tasks.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Example Sequence	Non-PT Session 1	Non-PT Session 2	Classroom Activity	PT Session 1	PT Session 2

Field Test Sequencing and Duration- Mathematics

	Math Non-Performance Task Questions	Math Classroom Activity	Math Performance Task (PT)
Number and Duration of Sessions	**Recommendations:** • Administered in two sessions • Session durations range from 40-60 minutes Most students will complete the Non-PT questions in two sessions of 60 minutes or less or one long session of more than 60 minutes.	**Recommendations:** • Administered in one session • Approximate session duration 15-30 minutes • Should occur as close to the PT as feasible, and no more than three days prior to the PT • MAY occur on the same day as the PT	**Recommendations:** • Administered in one session • Session duration ranges from 40-120 minutes
Breaks within Sessions	Breaks can be provided during the testing sessions using the software's pause feature. If the test is paused for more than 20 minutes, the student will not be able to go back to items on the previous screens.	**NA**	Students can take breaks during the PT testing sessions. Math PT items are presented on a single screen. Following a break the student will have access to the same items.
Total Duration	Once a student has started the non-PT questions, they will be available for **45 days**. • **Recommendation:** Student completes this portion within **5 days** of starting.	**NA**	Once a student has started the PT, it will be available for **10 days**. • **Recommendation:** Student completes the PT in one day.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Example	Non-PT Session 1	Non-PT Session 1	Classroom Activity	PT	